



SA TOMORROW

sustainability plan



2018 PROGRESS REPORT

• CITY OF SAN ANTONIO OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY •



**AN INVITATION FROM
MAYOR RON NIRENBERG
TO LEND YOUR VOICE**

Dear Friends,

San Antonio is a global city with a dynamic economy, a deep cultural heritage and diverse communities that are resilient and welcoming. It is one of the strongest fiscally managed cities in the country with a vibrant business climate. We value entrepreneurship, encourage investment and invest in our infrastructure.

One of my first acts as Mayor was to sign the Paris Climate Accord with a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to a warmer planet.

Engaged members of this community are helping craft a sustainable plan by examining best practices and policies around how we build, how we power our homes, cars and businesses; how we travel; how we conserve water and green space; how we reduce air pollution; and how we take care of our most vulnerable neighbors.

I challenge you to add your voice to the process! Together, we are stronger and smarter.

**Sincerely,
Mayor Ron Nirenberg**

**CHIEF SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER DOUGLAS MELNICK
WEIGHS IN ON PROGRESS**



Greetings!

In 2016, we adopted the SA Tomorrow Sustainability Plan as a roadmap for enhancing our community's quality of life and overall resilience. It's a plan to balance the impact of our expected growth to 2.6 million people by 2040 while enhancing economic, environmental, and social resources.

During the planning process we engaged a broad range of more than 4,000 San Antonians to share their concerns and offer ideas on how they want their city to look in the near and distant future and then developed goals, strategies, and metrics of success that are being tracked and reported.

You told us that:

“A sustainable San Antonio has a thriving economy, a healthy environment and an inclusive and fair community.”

To complement a bright future focused on innovation and livability, the City of San Antonio is building on the SA Tomorrow Sustainability Plan with SA Climate Ready, a strategic initiative that prepares us for the future as we focus on economic prosperity, environmental regeneration and an equitable quality-of-life for each and every one of our residents.

We should be proud that San Antonio has set a clear path toward a more sustainable and resilient future that considers the needs of present and future residents. Read ahead for news on progress made and plans laid to continue the momentum!

**Best,
Douglas Melnick**





**THE SUSTAINABILITY PLAN
IDENTIFIED 72 STRATEGIES
IN 7 KEY AREAS THAT HELP
BUILD A COMMUNITY THAT
IS PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE.**

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KEY AREAS



ENERGY

San Antonio leads the nation in the generation and delivery of clean, reliable, affordable energy.



FOOD SYSTEM

All San Antonians benefit from a thriving food system that is accessible, secure, nutritious, and affordable.



GREEN BUILDINGS & INFRASTRUCTURE

San Antonio is a leader in high performance and resilient buildings and infrastructure.



LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION

San Antonio's future growth is sustainable and efficient, focusing on strategic development that is compact, mixed-use, economically-inclusive, and multi-modal.



NATURAL RESOURCES

San Antonio serves as a national model for respectful stewardship of the city's natural resources and values them for their social, ecological, and economic benefits.



PUBLIC HEALTH

All San Antonians regardless of income, ability, or employment, benefit from a safe environment that inspires healthy, active lifestyles.



SOLID WASTE RESOURCES

All Residents and businesses have access to and receive ongoing benefits from innovative recycling and solid waste diversion programs.

Sustainability Plan

Outcomes focused on cross-cutting themes of air quality, economic vitality, equity, resilience & water resources

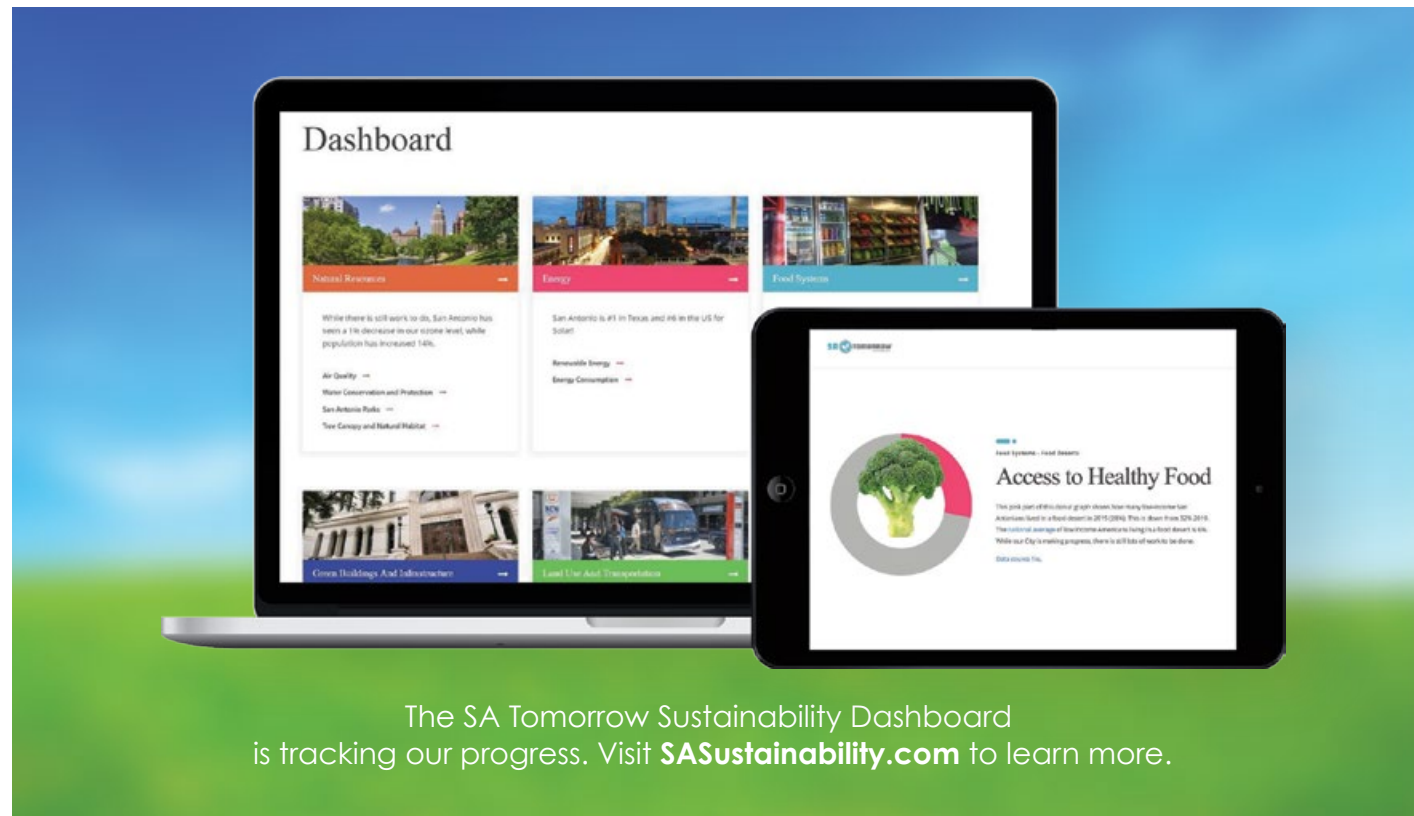
KEY ANALYSES ARE HELPING US PRIORITIZE MITIGATION MEASURES.

- 1 The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory** assessed greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated from both the community-at-large and municipal operations in 2014. The results of this assessment indicate the need to reduce emissions from buildings (homes and offices) and transportation in order to have the most impact.
- 2 The Climate Trends and Projections Analysis** analyzed observed trends in San Antonio and compared them with those seen across Texas and the South Central region. It also summarized qualitative projected future changes across the South Central region.
- 3 The Climate Vulnerability Assessment** identifies what current and future changing climate conditions and extreme weather events mean for San Antonio. Results of this work include: relative climate and weather-related vulnerability rankings for Key Areas of Concern, detailed descriptions of those rankings; and a list of strategies that could be used to address these vulnerabilities.





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The SA Tomorrow Sustainability Dashboard is tracking our progress. Visit [SASustainability.com](https://sasustainability.com) to learn more.



SUSTAINABLE POLICY INITIATIVES

Identifying and enacting policy change is an important tool in reaching sustainability goals that the community envisioned through the SA2020 process. Here is an update on the following initiatives:



ENERGY EFFICIENCY DARK SKY POLICY

Scientific studies have shown that light pollution, the inappropriate or excessive use of artificial light negatively impacts the environment, human health, military nighttime activities, and is wasting energy and financial resources. In February 2018, the City Council adopted an updated Military Lighting Ordinance to reflect technology advances, light levels and light intensity requirements. Subsequently, in June 2018, a Military Lighting Overlay District (MLOD) with the updated standards was adopted for Lackland AFB. An updated MLOD for Camp Bullis is currently in progress. More information is available [online](#).



AIR QUALITY ANTI-IDLING POLICY

The City's and Bexar County's anti-idling policies, adopted in 2016, are important measures to help achieve our community's priorities around public health and air pollution reduction, especially ground-level ozone. Furthermore, the City passed an Administrative Directive requiring all employees to manage and operate City vehicles and equipment in a manner that is safe, energy efficient and minimizes emissions. More information can be found [here](#).



WATER QUALITY COAL TAR SEALANT POLICY

A City Ordinance banning coal tar sealant products was adopted on June 30, 2016 as part of an effort to reduce and prevent hazardous carcinogenic emissions found in coal tar sealants from being swept into nearby river and creek channels through storm water runoff. For more information regarding coal tar pavement sealants, sealant alternatives and guidance on the ordinance, visit the City's Remember the River website at www.remembertheriver.com.

WHERE WE'RE LEADING ENERGY & WATER RESOURCES



HELP FROM A PARTNER



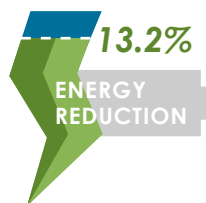
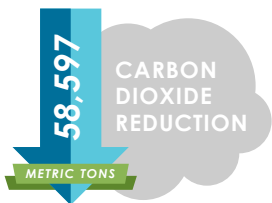
CPS ENERGY has a goal to have 50% of its electrical generation capacity to come from renewable energy in 2040. In 2017, San Antonio had 19% of its generation capacity come from renewable energy resource. Of that, 63% of renewable energy comes from wind; Solar PV technology contributes 36%; and landfill gas provides 1%. CPS Energy has 12 solar farms generating 500 megawatts of renewable power- the most in Texas. To make solar power more accessible, CPS Energy developed the Simply Solar Program. The program offers customers the opportunity to lease their roof for solar electricity generation or to purchase a share of the power produced at a centralized solar farm. Solar rebate programs have boosted the local economy by creating over 1000 new jobs and have provided home and business owners with millions of dollars of rebates.

372 ENERGY
EFFICIENCY
PROJECTS

BUILDING EFFICIENCY

– the City Leading by Example

The City's commitment to energy efficiency begins with its own buildings, and between 2011 and 2017, 372 energy efficiency projects have been completed. These include lighting, HVAC, and other equipment upgrades resulting in a reduction of 58,597 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions and a 13.2% reduction in energy use.



In addition to avoided costs, rebates from CPS Energy have added up to \$230,000 and are deposited into an

Energy Efficiency Revolving Fund that finances future energy efficiency projects.

UNDER 1 ROOF

Under 1 One Roof is San Antonio's residential roof repair program that replaces damaged roofs with new high reflectance roofs. Under the program, homeowners can qualify to have their roof repaired or replaced with energy-efficient, light-colored roofs. By using a durable and energy saving roofing underlayment that reflects 97% of radiant heat it encounters, homeowners can significantly reduce their energy usage and further improve our air quality. The UTSA College of Architecture monitoring of the roof installations have shown an average attic temperature reduction of 6.3°F and a peak afternoon temperature decrease of 10.1°F. These reductions translate directly into an energy

savings which saves the average homeowner \$100 to \$150 per month.

LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT

Low Impact Development, or LID, refers to interventions that capture stormwater on-site to prevent runoff from polluting our water resources. Often, the captured water is utilized for a beautiful and beneficial purpose like a rainwater garden. The San Antonio River Authority offers professional expertise to the land development community and incentivizes LID through the Watershed Wise Rebate and the Watershed Wise School Grant. In the last two years, 49 LID features have been built over 12 sites with many more planned for future construction. In the San Antonio Independent School District, 7 schools have received grants to LID on their campuses.

WHERE WE'RE LEADING

NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION



NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION

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HOWARD W. PEAK Greenway Trails System



The Howard
W. Peak

Greenway Trails System is an ever-expanding network of approximately 65 miles of paved multi-use and accessible trails and over 1400 acres of creek-side open space. Roughly forming a green ring through San Antonio's neighborhoods, floodplain property links parks with a recreational asset that may also serve as an alternative transportation option for cyclists and pedestrians. Key connections to on-street facilities are also being developed. Funding for the Greenway Trails was first approved by voters in 2000, followed by three subsequent elections, to use 1/8 cent from local sales tax revenue to

develop the trails. More information is available at SAParksandRec.com



MAYORS' MONARCH PLEDGE

The City of San Antonio has committed to the National Wildlife Federation's "Mayors' Monarch Pledge," by working with partners to enhance habitat for pollinating insects and to educate and encourage the greater community to support this initiative. The monarch butterfly is the state insect of Texas and migrates through our region twice annually. This species and other beneficial insects need native habitat to rest, refuel and lay eggs for the next generation. As pollinators, they make it possible for plants to produce food needed to feed people and wildlife. Due to the demise of its population as a result of native habitat loss and increased use of pesticides, the beautiful monarch has to devemerged as an ambassador

species bringing awareness to the fragility of natural ecosystems and the need for urban support.



AIR QUALITY PLANNING

Air quality is a priority for the City as we work to achieve health-based federal ground-level ozone standards. Bexar County has until the end of 2020 to demonstrate attainment or face stricter regulations. This will require the ongoing collaboration of local agencies, business and individuals to modify activities and personal behaviors that contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. The City's award-winning air quality awareness campaign, "Breathe Today. SA Tomorrow" provides public information, education and tips for community empowerment. In 2018, "Clean Air for Kids!," an anti-idling program for schools was launched.



**MAKING
SA CLIMATE
READY!**

WHAT WE CAN EXPECT IN SAN ANTONIO

As we anticipate changes in our community related to climate change, the SA Climate Ready Plan charts the course for a more equitable, environmentally resilient and economically viable future. Visit SAClimateReady.org to learn how we are building solutions to ensure San Antonio remains healthy and vibrant for generations.

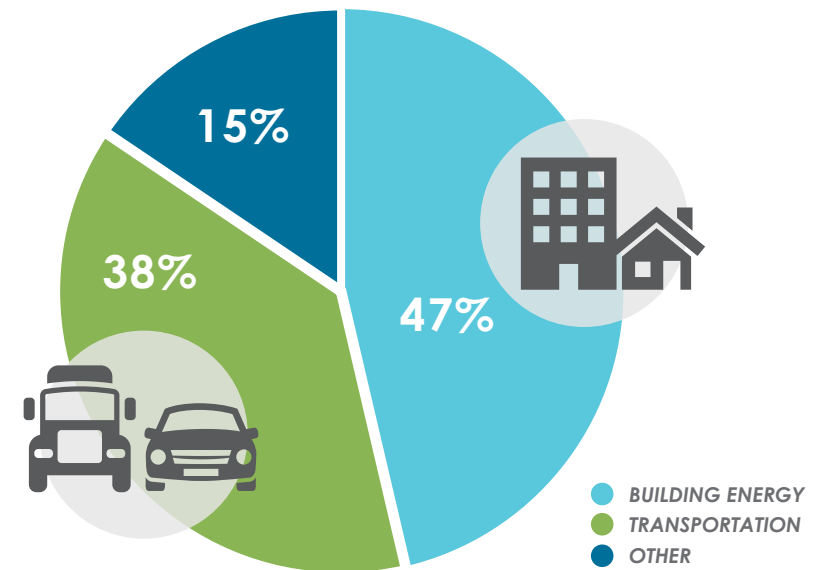
EXPECTED CHANGES IN CLIMATE



GHGs IN SAN ANTONIO

17,350,376 - GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

VALUES IN METRIC TONS





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VISIT THE SA TOMORROW SUSTAINABILITY
DASHBOARD AT [SASUSTAINABILITY.COM](https://sasustainability.com)

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